RG104 E-1 Box 174

OFFICE OF
DR. A. VAN CLEEF.
1742 SANDERSON AVE.
(U. S. Pen. Ex. Surgeon.)

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 12th. 1891

Supt. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir.

Seeing that the new coins are to have for design an Eagle and Liberty head, and are much criticised I am going to register my approval in advance;

I have before me a half dollar of 1827. The eagle is a little crude, but the "Liberty" is artistically perfect. For years I have admired these old coins, and wished the government would adopt them again. But I can scarcely hope for it, for the one reason alone. It might be thought the Gov't was taking a step backward.

For some unexplained reason these old coins look more like money to me than the present issues; and to my thinking are the most beautiful ever made.

If one in your position, and with your authority, would recommend a return to those old designs it might be favorably considered. However, you may not admire or desire them. Again I have thought it strange that the Gov't has not long ago, and especially since Silver has declined, increased the weight of the dollar 2½ grains thus making it weigh a full ℔ Troy of 437½ grs. The Trade dollar being short only 17½ grs.

Very Respectfully Yours.

A. Van Cleef

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Scranton. Pa

Dec. 12 1891

Dr. A. Van Cleef.

Relative to design for Coins.

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